

language other than English if the Commission determines that doing so is necessary to adequately protect the public.”

(b) **PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION ON RECALLED PRODUCTS.**—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall make the following information available to the public as the information becomes available to the Commission:

(1) Progress reports and incident updates with respect to action plans implemented under section 15(d) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2064(d)).

(2) Statistics with respect to injuries and deaths associated with products that the Commission determines present a substantial product hazard under section 15(c) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2064(c)).

(3) The number and type of communication from consumers to the Commission with respect to each product with respect to which the Commission takes action under section 15(d) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2064(d)).

SEC. 43. STUDY AND REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF AUTHORITIES RELATING TO SAFETY OF IMPORTED CONSUMER PRODUCTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a study of the authorities and provisions of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2051 et seq.) to assess the effectiveness of such authorities and provisions in preventing unsafe consumer products from entering the customs territory of the United States;

(2) develop a plan to improve the effectiveness of the Consumer Product Safety Commission in preventing unsafe consumer products from entering such customs territory; and

(3) submit to Congress a report on the findings of the Comptroller General with respect to paragraphs (1) through (3), including legislative recommendations related to—

(A) inspection of foreign manufacturing plants by the Consumer Product Safety Commission; and

(B) requiring foreign manufacturers to consent to the jurisdiction of United States courts with respect to enforcement actions by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SEC. 44. BAN ON IMPORTATION OF TOYS MADE BY CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.

Section 17 (15 U.S.C. 2066) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), as amended by section 10(f) of this Act—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) is a toy classified under heading 9503, 9504, or 9505 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States that is manufactured by a company that the Commission has determined—

“(A) has shown a persistent pattern of manufacturing such toys with defects that constitute substantial product hazards (as defined in section 15(a)(2)); or

“(B) has manufactured such toys that present a risk of injury to the public of such a magnitude that the Commission has determined that a permanent ban on all imports of such toys manufactured by such company is equitably justified.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) Whenever the Commission makes a determination described in subsection (a)(7) with respect to a manufacturer, the Commission shall submit to the Secretary of Homeland Security information that appropriately identifies the manufacturer.

“(j) Not later than March 31 of each year, the Commission shall submit to Congress an annual report identifying, for the 12-month period preceding the report—

“(1) toys classified under heading 9503, 9504, or 9505 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States that—

“(A) were offered for importation into the customs territory of the United States; and

“(B) the Commission found to be in violation of a consumer product safety standard; and

“(2) the manufacturers, by name and country, that were the subject of a determination described in subsection (a)(7)(A) and (B).”

SEC. 45. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARDS USE OF FORMALDEHYDE IN TEXTILE AND APPAREL ARTICLES.

(a) **STUDY ON USE OF FORMALDEHYDE IN MANUFACTURING OF TEXTILE AND APPAREL ARTICLES.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Consumer Product Safety Commission shall conduct a study on the use of formaldehyde in the manufacture of textile and apparel articles, or in any component of such articles, to identify any risks to consumers caused by the use of formaldehyde in the manufacturing of such articles, or components of such articles.

ORDER FOR FILING

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Budget Committee have until 4 p.m. today, Friday, March 7, to file the concurrent budget resolution, notwithstanding the adjournment of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER TO CONSIDER BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the concurrent budget resolution on Monday, March 10, at 3 p.m., and that on Monday there be debate only, with no amendments in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR AND USE OF CALCULATORS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of staff from the Budget Committee at the desk be granted full floor access privileges; and that the use of calculators be permitted on the floor of the Senate during consideration of the concurrent resolution on the budget.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The list is as follows:

BUDGET STAFF

John Righter
Joel Friedman
Steve Posner
Jim Hearn
Cheri Reidy
David Pappone

CPSC REFORM ACT

AMENDMENT NO. 4143, AS MODIFIED

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that not withstanding the adoption of amendment No. 4143 and the passage of the act H.R. 4040, amendment 4143 be modified with changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The modification is as follows:

On page 49, strike lines 8 through 15 and insert the following:

establish additional criteria for the imposition of civil penalties under section 20 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2069) and any other Act enforced by the Commission, including factors to be considered in establishing the amount of such penalties, such as repeat violations, the precedential value of prior adjudicated penalties, the factors described in section 20(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2069(b)), and other circumstances, Section 20 (15 U.S.C. 2069) is amended—

(1) by striking “charged.” in subsection (b) and inserting “charged, including how to mitigate undue adverse economic impacts on small businesses.”; and

(2) by striking “charged.” in subsection (c) and inserting “charged, (including how to mitigate undue adverse economic impacts on small businesses).”.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2734

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2734) to aid families and neighborhoods facing home foreclosure and address the subprime mortgage crisis.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading, and I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1084, H.R. 1424, AND H.R. 5159

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I understand there are three bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1084) to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, and the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to build operational readiness in civilian agencies, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 1424) to amend section 712 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, section 2705 of the Public Health Service Act, section 9812 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require equity in the provision of mental health and substance-related disorder benefits under group health plans, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 5159) to establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, headed by the Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services, to provide for the effective management and administration of the Capitol Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bills will be placed on the calendar.

TEMPORARILY EXTENDING THE PROGRAMS UNDER THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 2733, introduced earlier today by Senator KENNEDY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2733) to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2733) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2733

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Higher Education Extension Act of 2008”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROGRAMS.

Section 2(a) of the Higher Education Extension Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-81; 20 U.S.C. 1001 note) is amended by striking “March 31, 2008” and inserting “April 30, 2008”.

SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act, or in the Higher Education Extension Act of 2005 as amended by this Act, shall be construed to limit or otherwise alter the authorizations of appropriations for, or the durations of, programs contained in the amendments made by the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-171) or by the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84) to the provisions of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Taxpayer-Teacher Protection Act of 2004.

DESIGNATING MARCH 25, 2008 AS “GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY: A NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRATION OF GREEK AND AMERICAN DEMOCRACY”

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 476 which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 476) designating March 25, 2008, as “Greek Independence Day:

A National Day of Celebration of Greek and America Democracy.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 476) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 476

Whereas the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people;

Whereas the Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming a representative democracy;

Whereas Greek Commander in Chief Petros Mavromichalis, a founder of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821 that “it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you”;

Whereas, during World War II, Greece played a major role in the struggle to protect freedom and democracy by bravely fighting the historic Battle of Crete, giving the Axis powers their first major setback in the land war, and setting off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II;

Whereas Greece paid a high price for defending the common values of Greece and the United States in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Greek civilians during World War II;

Whereas, throughout the 20th century, Greece was 1 of only 3 countries in the world, outside the former British Empire, that allied with the United States in every major international conflict;

Whereas President George W. Bush, in recognizing Greek Independence Day in 2002, said, “Greece and America have been firm allies in the great struggles for liberty. . . . Americans will always remember Greek heroism and Greek sacrifice for the sake of freedom. . . . [and a]s the 21st century dawns, Greece and America once again stand united; this time in the fight against terrorism. . . . The United States deeply appreciates the role Greece is playing in the war against terror. . . . America and Greece are strong allies, and we’re strategic partners.”;

Whereas President Bush stated that Greece’s successful “law enforcement operations against a terrorist organization [November 17] responsible for 3 decades of terrorist attacks underscore the important contributions Greece is making to the global war on terrorism”;

Whereas Greece is a strategic partner and ally of the United States in bringing political stability and economic development to the volatile Balkan region, investing over \$20,000,000,000, creating over 200,000 new jobs, and contributing over \$750,000,000 in development aid to the region;

Whereas Greece was extraordinarily responsive to requests by the United States during the war in Iraq, immediately granting the United States unlimited access to Greece’s airspace and the base in Souda Bay, and many United States ships that delivered troops, cargo, and supplies to Iraq were refueled in Greece;

Whereas Greece actively participates in peacekeeping and peace-building operations conducted by international organizations including the United Nations, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe;

Whereas, in August 2004, the Olympic games came home to Athens, Greece, the land in which the games began 2,500 years ago and the city in which the games were revived in 1896;

Whereas Greece received worldwide praise for its extraordinary handling during the 2004 Olympics of more than 14,000 athletes and more than 2,000,000 spectators and journalists, a feat Greece handled efficiently, securely, and with famous Greek hospitality;

Whereas the unprecedented security effort in Greece for the first Olympics after the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, included a record-setting expenditure of more than \$1,390,000,000 and the assignment of more than 70,000 security personnel, as well as the utilization of an 8-country Olympic Security Advisory Group that included the United States;

Whereas Greece, located in a region in which Christianity mixes with Islam and Judaism, maintains excellent relations with Muslim countries and Israel;

Whereas the Government of Greece has had extraordinary success in recent years in furthering cross-cultural understanding and reducing tensions between Greece and Turkey, as seen most recently with the January 2008 visit to Turkey by the Prime Minister of Greece, Kostas Karamanlis, the first official visit to Turkey by a Prime Minister of Greece in 49 years;

Whereas Greece is a key energy security hub that delivers gas to Europe via the Turkey-Greece-Italy Interconnector;

Whereas Greece is a world leader in the assimilation of immigrants, with immigrants having grown to more than 10 percent of people employed in Greece;

Whereas Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort to advance freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights;

Whereas those and other ideals have forged a close bond between the governments and the peoples of Greece and the United States;

Whereas March 25, 2008, marks the 187th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the people of Greece from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable for the people of the United States to celebrate this anniversary with the people of Greece and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which both Greece and the United States were born: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 2008, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 106-567, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Interest Declassification Board: Sanford Ungar of Maryland.